

of the child's medical well-being was not completed. It appears that a more timely assessment and intervention may have precluded the need for removal.

OCPO contacted DCFS Regional Administration regarding the concern about the CPS worker's actions in this case. DCFS Regional Administration informed OCPO that they are currently addressing the concerns identified by OCPO.

Recommendation: OCPO concurs with the complainant's concerns regarding the lack of service prior to the removal of Jordan. Please refer to recommendations made for Concern #4.

*Concern #2 A complainant is concerned that Jordan was not adequately cared for while in state's custody as the Christmas Box House shelter staff did not know how to care for Jordan's medical needs resulting in a delay in Jordan's insulin shot the night he was removed and a subsequent hospitalization.*

Findings: The CPS worker documented that there were enough "vocal reports, comments from concerned bystanders etc. and had enough contact with MO-Leesa to observe (clinically) that [Jordan] is at high risk for serious medical complications." After taking custody of Jordan, the caseworker documented that on September 28, 2000, Jordan was seen "briefly" by "nurse Kim Mason" at the "Elderidge Medical Center." The caseworker did not document the outcome of this examination. OCPO was unable to locate an Elderidge Medical Center in the Salt Lake Valley. The shelter documentation completed by the CPS worker provided a telephone number for the Elderidge Medical Center. OCPO contacted this number which is for the "Westridge Medical Center." There is also documentation that Jordan had previously been seen at the "Westridge Medical Center," which is where Kim Mason was employed. OCPO contacted the Westridge Medical Center and found that Kim Mason is no longer employed by the center. They reviewed their records and found no documentation that Jordan was seen at the center on September 28, 2000. They also indicated that Ms. Mason is not a nurse, rather she is a medical assistant whose responsibilities include patient referrals. Reportedly, Ms. Mason does not conduct medical examinations of patients. OCPO notes that the removal papers, which were provided to Ms. Bierly document that Jordan was removed because the "Child needs immediate medical care." OCPO interviewed the CPS worker, Barry Richards, who recalled taking Jordan to the medical center but could not recall whether the child was seen by a medical professional. OCPO is extremely concerned, as there is no documentation that Jordan immediately received a medical examination when concern for his medical well being was the basis for removal. DCFS Policy requires that children taken into custody for medical neglect have a medical examination within 24 hours. Additionally, DCFS policy requires that a child in need of acute medical treatment (i.e. serious illness) should be assessed and receive treatment at a medical facility before being placed in shelter.

When the CPS worker placed Jordan in the Christmas Box House, he informed the staff about Jordan's diabetic condition and documented "emphasizing with [shelter staff member] the need to keep in close contact with [Ms. Bierly] to ensure that the medical instructions for PV's insulin injections were followed precisely." There is an attached note written by Ms. Bierly, which describes Jordan's insulin and feeding schedule. DCFS referred the shelter staff to Jordan's mother for medical direction despite the fact that DCFS removed Jordan based on allegations Ms. Bierly was not providing Jordan with appropriate medical care. There is no indication that DCFS determined if Ms. Bierly's instruction were consistent with that recommended by the medical professionals treating Jordan.